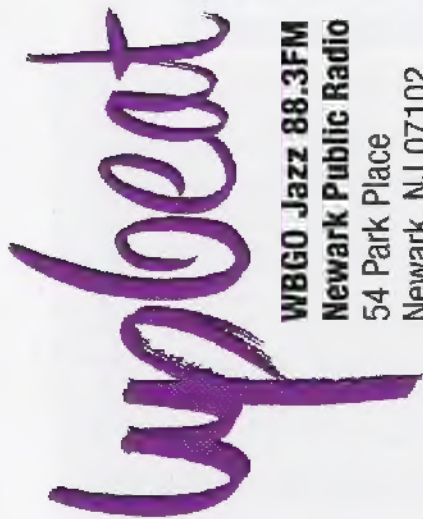




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TIME DATED MATERIAL — PLEASE DELIVER ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2011

Newark Symphony Hall
WBGO-FM Jazz 88
and Bethany Baptist Church
present

World-Renowned Jazz Organist

Rhoda Scott

**Sacred Music
Organ Concert**

Sunday, November 6, 3:00 pm

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

275 West Market Street, Newark NJ

Free Admission

**Live Broadcast from
WBGO Performance Studio**

Friday, November 18, 9:00 pm

WBGO-FM Jazz 88

(Not open to the public)

Organ Jam With All-Star Jazz Line-Up

Featured Organists: Rhoda Scott,

Mel Davis, Radam Schwartz,

Nate Lucas and Reuben Wilson

Also Appearing: Leo Johnson,

Victor Jones, Taylor Moore,

Bill Wurtzel, Earl Grice,

Mark Bowers, Marcus Miller,

Joe Brown, Jr., Cynthia Holiday,

Dwight West and more.

Saturday, December 3,

8:00 pm - 1:00 am

NEWARK SYMPHONY HALL

Terrace Ballroom

\$25

Positive Community



World-Renowned Jazz Organist

Rhoda Scott

**Organ Jam With All-Star
Jazz Line-up**

Featured Organists: Rhoda Scott, Mel Davis,
Radam Schwartz, Nate Lucas and Reuben
Wilson. Also Appearing: Leo Johnson, Victor
Jones, Taylor Moore, Bill Wurtzel, Earl Grice,
Mark Bowers, Marcus Miller, Joe Brown, Jr.,
Cynthia Holiday, Dwight West and more.

December 3, 2011

8:00 pm - 1:00 am

Terrace Ballroom

Rhoda Scott, originally from New Jersey and living in France for most of her 40-year career, is one of the world's most celebrated jazz organists. Scott's style combines the precision of classical music, the swinging groove of jazz and blues, and the deep, rich soul of African-American spirituals. Newark Symphony Hall, WBGO and Bethany Baptist Church have come together to present this premier musical artist in her first appearance in the City of Newark in many years.

Tickets \$25

Tickets can be purchased at

Newark Symphony Hall Box Office

To charge tickets call 973.643.8014 or

Ticketmaster.com

**NEWARK
SYMPHONY
HALL**

1020 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102

Rhoda Scott Sets Newark Symphony Hall Ablaze

Legend Leads Organ Jam with All-Star Line-up

Newark Symphony Hall | December 3 | 8 PM – 1 AM

On Saturday, December 3, The Terrace Ballroom at Newark Symphony Hall filled up with the hubbub of close to 1000 patrons eager to experience a good old fashioned jazz organ jam. Many recalled Rhoda Scott's 1960s appearances at Newark's many hopping jazz clubs, before she moved to Paris. The Ballroom felt like a nightclub, arrayed with big round tables and chairs, lively bar activity and hot food available to bring back to your seat. The evening had the feeling of old friends gathering for history-in-the-making.

The program promised five sets of music and we never thought we'd last until 1 AM, but those hours flew. Not one but *two* organists alternated and collaborated in the first set: Patersonian Mel Davis and New Yorker Nate Lucas. Earl Grice took charge at the drums and Mark Bowers played incredibly hot and funky guitar licks. Davis also sang an R&B-flavored "Everything Must Change." Glorious Gloria Anderson emerged from the wings to sing a torchy "But Beautiful." Saxman Don Braden jumped in, apparently unable to sit still backstage waiting for his scheduled third set appearance.

Organmeister Radam Schwartz was in the spotlight for Set II, accompanied by Andrew Atkinson on drums, Marcus Miller, sax, and the glamorous Cynthia Holiday vocalizing an achingly slow "Never Can Say Goodbye."



Rhoda Scott



Gloria Anderson



Cynthia Holiday

An exuberant reception greeted Rhoda Scott's first appearance on-stage for Set III with Victor Jones, drums, Don Braden, sax, and Dwight West singing. She can't *possibly* be 73! "I can feel the love!" she beamed. She spoke of Newark, Orange, East Orange, Morristown, Hackensack, all the places she's played... "I hope jazz will be bigger and

bigger; I'd like to do whatever I can in Newark. And thanks to all the organists for keeping the tradition alive!" She then proceeded to swing us with "Sugar." Followed by an original waltz of hers, recorded with Mel Lewis and Thad Jones. Also a highlight: "Tamiko." Braden's mellow tone and Scott's layered mellow organ mesh wonderfully. It's fun to watch her work this big box of an instrument, sometimes hands-free, her left foot playing a complex bass line all by itself. It was somebody's birthday — we all sang a greeting to Alex. Dwight West pleased the assembled with "I Want to Talk About You." But he really got it going with his original "Newark Blues in G" which among other landmarks named Howard Street where he grew up — and gave the audience a chance to participate in singing the chorus "Newark is My Hometown."



Don Braden and Mel Davis

Below: Stan Myers emceed. He acknowledged organ legend Jimmy McGriff's widow among the crowd.

The City of Newark, represented by Councilpersons Donald Payne Jr. and Mildred Crump, presented Rhoda with a proclamation. "We love her talent and welcome her back to this 'great metropolis.'" Even the Mayor of East Orange claimed her — she's living there now while she studies Jazz History and Research at Rutgers–Newark. She also works with the choir at E.O.'s St. Mark's Church.

By Linda Lobdell

Photos by
Tony Graves



Don Braden with
Rhoda Scott

Rhoda told how organ jams are a tradition in Newark. She talked about 1961, Warren Street, Len & Len's Club, when she was just starting out. She played "Ebb Tide" with flutist Joe Thomas and drummer Bill Elliott "...and I can't tell you how many people have asked me tonight to play it.

I'm gonna see if this organ can take it." She plays it with a sci-fi aura intro, developing into a big big thunderous ocean of sound.

Set IV features Reuben Wilson on the organ, a very high-energy young lady drummer, Taylor Moore, and guitarist Bill Wurtzel. They move from

"Chicken Shack" to "Misty" with fancy work by Moore and powerhouse work throughout.

And finally, the jam, with all hands on deck, everybody switching instruments and positions in an explosion of sound. "Every Day I Have the Blues," "Let the Good Times

Roll," "Muddy Water" — whew! Maybe this show signals a return of an annual jazz festival in the city, or at least the return of the organ jams that were the climax of those 1990s festivals. We can only hope! Especially we who missed them the first time around

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The grand finale — jam time: Vocalists Holiday, Anderson and West together with drummer Victor Jones.

